[8th December 1961

Vannathiparai Reserved Forest of Cumbum Range will be sold in open auction, and that the petitioners may also bid in the auction. The District Forest Officer, Madurai South, has also been instructed to send copy of the sale notice to the Society. The District Forest Officer is yet to complete survey of all suitable areas in convenient blocks and he will put them up for sale in public auction as soon as the survey is completed.

Taxi-drivers' strike.

* 2187 *Q.*—SRI V. K. KOTHANDARAMAN (on behalf of SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the Commissioner of Police, Madras City, was informed of the decision of the taxi drivers in Madras City to go on strike with effect from 24th July 1961; and

(*b*) the efforts taken by him to avert the strike?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) & (*b*) A statement [a] is placed on the table of the House.

SRI K. VINAYAKAM : Sir, after effecting rapproachment between the taxi drivers and the authorities concerned, what are the improvements that have been made possible in the solution of the grievances of the taxi drivers?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I may tell the hon. Member that the situation has improved, there is no trouble and there is no strike.

Bhoodan workers (Arrest)

* 2188 *Q.*—SRI **V. K. KOTHANDARAMAN** : கனம் உள் துறை அமைச்சர் தயவுசெய்து கீழ்க்கண்ட கேள்விக்குப் பதிலளிப் பாரா—

தமிழ்நாட்டில் 1961 ஆகஸ்டு மாதத்தில் எத்தனை பூமிதான இயக்க தொண்டர்கள் மறியல் செய்ததற்காக கைது செய்யப் பட்டனர்?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I am answering the question on the assumption that the hon. Member is referring to the arrests made during the agitation by some persons to take possession of some lands in Muthirulandipatti village, Madurai district, in August last. The number of persons arrested during the agitation was one hundred and twenty-three.

Unemployment problem.

* 2189 *Q.*—SRI N. MARUDACHALAM (on behalf of SRI N. K. PALANISAMI and SRI A. A. RASHEED) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether any scheme has been formulated at the National Development Council meeting held during May 1961 by the State and the Centre for solving unemployment problem?

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 249–250 infra.